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A full-page photograph of cyclist Greg Lemond in a blue jersey with white stars, riding a green and white road bike. He has a determined, shouting expression on his face. The background is a blurred crowd of spectators.

THE SHOOTING OF
GREG LEMOND

*The morning
that almost took
Minnesota's
greatest cyclist*

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BARTENDER
OF THE WEEK

Emily



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July 25-31, 2018

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The morning that almost took Minnesota's greatest cyclist *By Daniel De Visé*

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Greg LeMond winning
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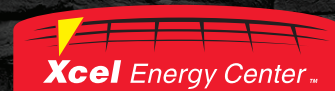
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UPCOMING EVENTS



AUGUST 1

DRAKE



AUGUST 8



AUGUST 14

CHARLIE PUTH

SAM SMITH



AUGUST 15



AUGUST 19

ROD STEWART

THE SMASHING PUMPKINS

Bruno Mars (9.11 & 9.12) • Maroon 5 (9.18)
USA Hockey All-American Prospects Game (9.19)
Justin Timberlake (9.28 & 9.29) • Lynyrd Skynyrd (10.5)
Sesame Street Live! Let's Party! (10.7)
Foo Fighters (10.18) • Twenty One Pilots (10.21)
Fleetwood Mac (10.22) • Josh Groban (11.2)
Disney On Ice (12.6-9) • Bob Seger (12.12)
PINK (5.5.2019) • Shawn Mendes (6.21.2019)

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THE SHORTLIST



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 the aerial insanity
 of X Games 2018
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DEB FREYTAG

THE STAT SHEET

3.1 Minnesota's unemployment rate, the lowest in 18 years.	1 Minneapolis' ranking for the fastest mobile internet speed in the country. St. Paul finished second.
302,600 Jobs Minnesota has added since Mark Dayton became governor in 2011.	\$3,015 What the average Walmart worker uses each year in public assistance to compensate for low wages.

“This is what happens when the incels
 stop gaming and leave the basement.”

Reader Jill Ziegenhagen Benninghofen
 responds to “GOP Senate candidate Jim
 Newberger ready to protect Minnesota from
 Muslim control,” at citypages.com.

CONGRESSMAN GOOBER

THERE'S A REASON Woodbury Congressman
 Jason Lewis didn't want the tapes released
 from his two decades as a talk radio host.
 He spent that time yammering incoherently
 like your drunk Uncle Ed.

CNN got its hands on five months' worth
 of tapes. So far, it's found Lewis lamenting
 that you can't call women “sluts” anymore,
 claiming black people are entitled, and dis-
 cussing a race war in Minneapolis that never
 actually happened.

Lewis has tried to blame anyone and
 everyone for raising the issue. That's to be
 expected. Politicians have always believed that
 “personal responsibility” is best left to others.

POPULAR STORIES
 AT CITYPAGES.COM

Yale's **SARAH BRAASCH**,
 who called cops on sleeping black
 student, tweets ‘My life is over’

Very confused driver took car
 onto **MIDTOWN GREENWAY**
 in Minneapolis

DAVID MARTINEZ arrested in
 St. Paul, jailed for revenge porn

MINNEAPOLIS POLICE UNION
 endorses Tim Pawlenty, who
 doesn't like unions

BACK CHANNEL BREWING on
 Lake Minnetonka has customers
 drinking IPAs out of bowls

ALL WELCOME HERE

In Hastings, that message comes with an asterisk

This year the little river town of Hastings declared its appreciation of its people, no matter their ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, gender identification, and so on.

The suburb of 22,600 is a warm, progressive community, Councilman Joe Balsanek says. Residents bop around its small shops and stroll through its 33 parks. It's the kind of "idyllic" place where you'll meet three or four people you know on a single trip to the grocery store, according to Council Member Lori Braucks.

In recent history, the town has been largely white, but is less so now. The population is changing, growing with the times. But a letter circulating through town indicates not all are welcome.

It's signed by the leaders of seven churches and Pine Harbor Christian Academy. The pastors congratulate Hastings for making an effort to "eliminate all forms of prej-

dice, bullying, and mistreatment directed toward any marginalized subgroup." Then comes the "but."

The writers believe there is one group that shouldn't really be welcomed: transgender folks.

"There is extensive evidence that the promotion of the view that a person's sex as a fluid self-perception rather than a biological fact is harmful to children and teens," they write. This view is "factually unsubstantiated" and will encourage young people to "make irreversible decisions to artificially alter their sexual identity."

For the record, being transgender is not "factually unsubstantiated." Not according to the American Medical Association and the American Psychiatric Association. Still, the church leaders are concerned about teens being "render[ed] infertile" by hormone treatments and surgeries. Then there's the students being allowed to use the bathroom that matches their gender identity.



A group of preachers worries about kids turning transgender.

GREG ANDERSON

"Are we being intolerant?" they ask. "No."

"I had to cool down for a minute," resident Emma Oelkers says. The recent University of Iowa grad stumbled across the letter as it circulated through Snapchat, accompanied by the outrage of her friends. She wasn't entirely surprised.

"I feel like Hastings has always been kind of half-and-half," she says -- one foot pointing toward the future, the other entrenched in the past. It was the same way when same-sex marriage was up for debate.

Of course, every social revolution has its holdouts. They remained even after same-sex marriage was legalized.

Balsanek still believes it's a progressive town "from a government standpoint." Different churches, he says, will believe what they believe, accept who they want to accept.

He and the City Council still agree that "all are welcome." And as history has proven time and again, those not onboard will eventually get left behind. —HANNAH JONES

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It Got Worse

Why were Minnesota's queer kids so miserable in the tolerant 2000s?

Starting in 1998, the Minnesota Student Survey, conducted among the state's ninth and 12th-graders, included questions about sexual activity. Was it with the opposite sex? Same sex? Both?

In 1998, students who'd had same-sex relationships suffered more depression, more stress, and felt "hopeless" at far higher rates than straight peers, according to a new paper in the *Journal of School Health*. They were twice as likely to think about killing themselves, and two and a half times as likely to have tried it.

Over the next dozen years, conditions generally improved for all students. But those mawing gaps hadn't closed a bit. Some got worse. "Boys with same-sex partners had a higher likelihood of being 'sad all the time' in the past month," says Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc, a researcher at the University of British Columbia. "Girls with same-sex partners had increased stress."

How could this be? In 1998, religious groups effectively bullied advertisers and ABC, and got Ellen Degeneres' sitcom canceled. By 2010, Ellen was the heir apparent to Oprah, and a judge on *American Idol*, the top-rated show in the country. Couldn't these queer kids see all the progress we'd made?

That's not how they experienced it. During the years in question, their sexuality became a political battleground. In 2004, Republicans put gay marriage bans on the ballot in 11 states to drive up conservative turnout. All 11 passed.

Minnesota passed its "Defense of Marriage" in 1997. That wasn't enough for Republicans, who spent the next 14 years pinning for a constitutional marriage ban, finally voting in 2011 to put it on the ballot.

"When the general public discourse treats you as second-class citizens," Saewyc says, "people who are prejudiced feel tacit permission to continue bullying and harassing."

The 2000s were a "best of times, worst of times situation for queer youth," says writer Dan Savage. Teens in loving homes and accepting schools could live out and proud like never before. Others suffered alone, not just against in-school (or in-house) discrimination, but from salvos of bigotry from the religious right.

"You had essentially the entire Republican Party dedicated to this proposition that gay marriage was a plot to destroy straight relationships, straight families, the church, the world," Savage says.

In 2010, Savage started his "It Gets Better" campaign, a reaction to suicides among those who didn't survive teen cruelty long enough to find peace in adulthood.

Minnesota was not immune. A rash of suicides in the Anoka Hennepin School District around that time—eight students in two years, at least four of them gay or bisexual—turned suburban schools into national news. Years later, one name remains on the tip of Savage's tongue. "Justin Aaberg," he intoned quietly, like a Catholic lighting a candle for a saint.

Tammy Aaberg had known that her 15-year-old, who'd just finished his freshman year at Anoka High School, was depressed one week in July 2010. She hoped Justin would open up to her, as he often did, when they took their regularly scheduled shopping trip on a summer Friday. "I never got that chance," she says. She and Justin's brothers found him hanging that morning.

Tammy often thought "I wish Justin was here" in the following years as she watched the repeal of "Don't Ask Don't Tell," Minnesota voting "no" in 2012, and the legalizing of gay marriage. During his short lifetime, Justin saw mostly setbacks.

Advocacy groups like OutFront Minnesota had pushed school anti-bullying legislation for years, seeking to replace the measly 37 words (with no mention of sexual orientation) on the books. Finally, the Legislature passed it in 2009. Tim Pawlenty vetoed it.

As governor, Pawlenty was no fire-and-brimstone preacher. His cruelty was quiet and cold, more like a hospital administrator asking if the unconscious patient had the proper insurance.

Pawlenty stripped same-sex partner benefits from state employees, and vetoed an end-of-life bill that would've treated gay partners like heterosexual widows, saying, "Marriage... should remain elevated in our society at a special level."

Minnesota's gays and lesbians were lifted to that "special level" in 2013, and the anti-bullying bill passed the next year. Experts hope to see positive effects on queer youth responses to the Minnesota Student Survey by 2019, a decade after Pawlenty's veto.

Aaberg and Savage recognize this tenuous moment in our story of progress. Both are disturbed to see the return of a chilling character from those grim middle chapters. As a candidate for governor, circa 2018, Pawlenty is dodging his past. Gay marriage "is now decided," he recently told WCCO. Besides, he opposes discrimination... except in the case of "voluntary behaviors" like "cross-dressing," where protection goes "too far."

He should not be let off this wicked hook.



Mike Mullen

"Either you have terrible judgment," Savage says, "or were willing to throw vulnerable people—including vulnerable young people—under a bus for political power. Neither answer makes Tim Pawlenty look very good."

Pawlenty's first official step on his campaign was backward: an event with the Minnesota Family Council, whose fearful whispers about the gay "agenda" guided Pawlenty's cruelest moments in the 2000s. Now the Council's scariest villains are the transgender. As Savage notes, the pervert-in-a-bathroom-with-your-kid scenarios are identical to the "bullshit" once used against gays.

Tammy Aaberg is raising a trans teenager, one who has reached the same age Justin was when he died. Aaberg is trying to shield some of the harshest rhetoric, talking her teen through the rest, and offering hope when she can.

"The more of us that are caring toward each other, and positive toward each other, the more positivity there is in this world," she says.

Thinking of Justin, she adds: "It's been eight years now. We don't want to go back there." **CP**

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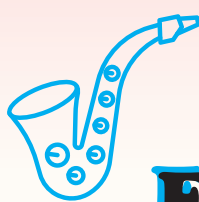


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The following is an excerpt from The Comeback: Greg LeMond, the True King of American Cycling, and a Legendary Tour de France, a new book from Atlantic Monthly Press.

Greg LeMond awoke before dawn on April 20, 1987. It was the day after Easter. He was about to return to Europe, to rejoin the peloton and resume preparations to defend his 1986 title in the Tour de France, the first victory by an American in that great race.

In ordinary circumstances, Greg would have been in Europe already. But this morning found him at home, outside Sacramento, convalescing. A month earlier, Greg broke his hand in a crash at a race in Italy. He returned to the United States, where he could be with his wife Kathy at their lovely house in Rancho Murieta, a gated community built around a pair of golf courses.

During six weeks of recovery, Greg had done little but train on his bicycle; the cast on his left hand precluded golfing and other cathartic pursuits.

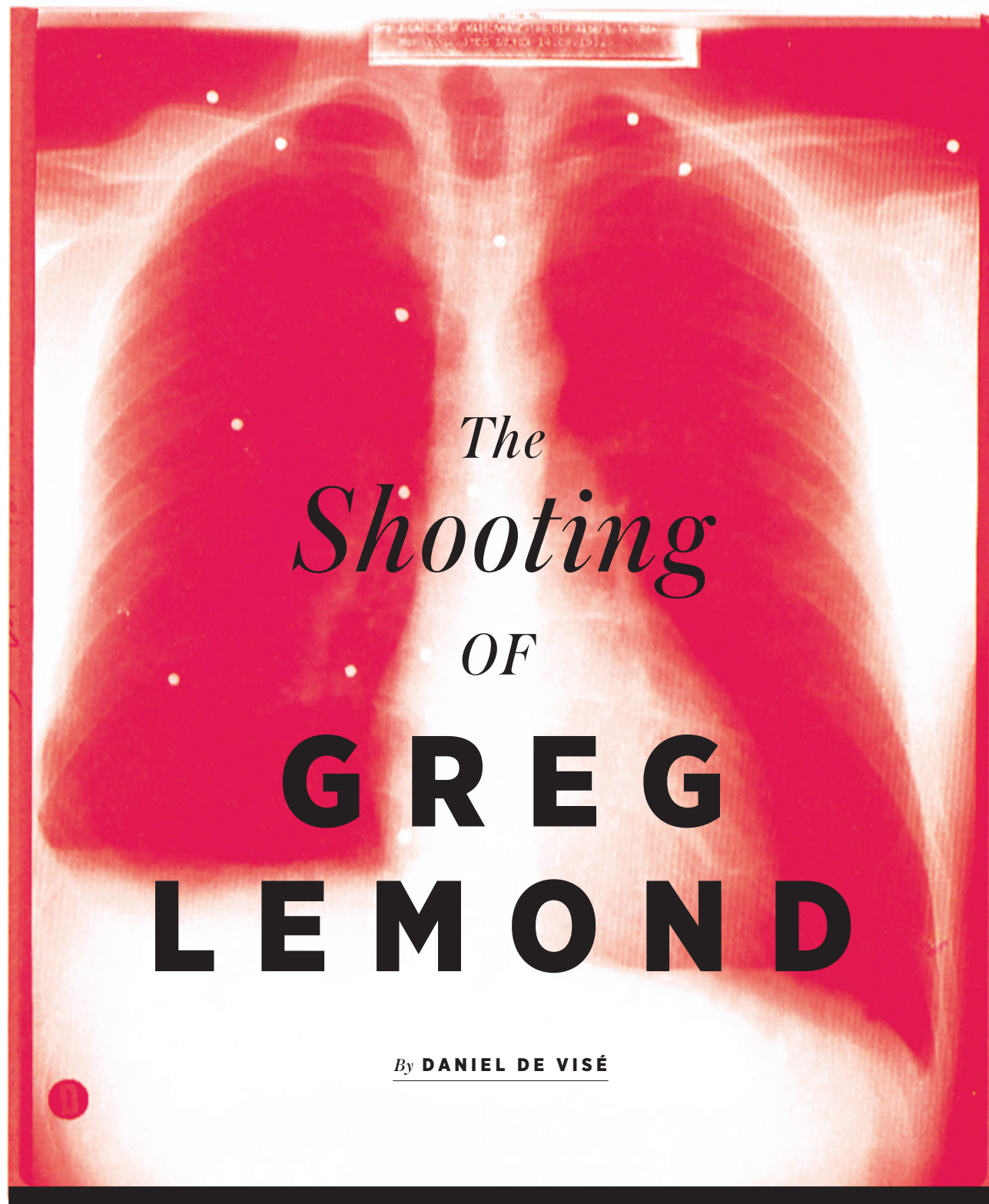
Greg's uncle, Rod Barber, had repeatedly invited his nephew to drive out to his own property, a thirty-acre ranch on land more remote than Greg's. With the return to Europe looming, Greg finally agreed to make the trip the Monday after Easter. He would join his uncle for a turkey hunt in the morning, pedal the forty miles home, and then visit his doctor in the afternoon to get the cast removed from his hand.

Greg packed his bicycle into his car and left at 6:30 a.m. for the the ranch community of Lincoln. He arrived an hour later, and uncle and nephew readied for the hunt. Joining them was a third man, Pat Blades, the husband of Greg's older sister, Kathy.

The men set out on foot across a dry riverbed, bound for a hill dotted with blackberry bushes and trees a few hundred yards from the house. The hunters slowed and split, Greg's uncle heading off to the left, his brother-in-law to the right. Their plan was to pad haltingly across the prairie in pursuit of their quarry.

Greg was an experienced hunter; his brother-in-law was not. After a time, Pat became disoriented and began to whistle, hoping his fellow hunters would respond in kind, so that he could discern their location. All three men wore camouflage gear and nets covering their faces to conceal themselves from the skittish birds.

Greg had settled into a patch of cover among the berry bushes. He heard the whistling but did not respond; he assumed that if he could recognize Pat's whistle, then the birds would recognize his.



COURTESY OF GREG LEMOND

The morning that almost took Minnesota's greatest cyclist

Eventually, the whistling stopped. Greg wondered where the other men were hiding. He finally gathered himself up to stand.

The moment he rose, Greg heard a shot. It was so loud, so close, that at first he thought his own gun had somehow discharged.

Greg sank down into a crouch. After a moment of confusion, he glanced at his

left hand and saw blood. Then he felt numbness wash over his body. He tried again to stand, and suddenly felt as if he was going to pass out. He sank again.

He tried to speak but found that he could only gurgle. Greg's lungs were flooding with blood; he could barely breathe. Oh, my God, he thought. I've been shot. Pat came running. "What happened?"

he cried. "What happened?" Greg's life—or, more precisely, its end—was flashing before his eyes.

"I'm going to die," he gurgled. "My God, my life is going to end."

Greg was in shock. Pat was calm—until he heard Greg's words, whereupon he became hysterical. Greg's uncle heard Pat's screams and ran over to join the

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Greg LeMond in LeMond Bicycles' North Loop offices in 2014

younger men, prying the shotgun from the stunned shooter's hands.

Soon, Greg's hunting companions had succumbed to a muddled panic, yelling at each other and trying in vain to lift Greg's wounded body.

Their hysteria calmed Greg, who had made a career of enduring pain. He shouted back at them, "I'm going to die if you guys don't calm down." His companions collected themselves.

Rod ran back to the house to call an ambulance, placing the call at 8:49 a.m. Then he returned. The two men again attempted to lift Greg, but he was in too much pain to stand. Greg instructed Rod to "back up your truck." Rod departed.

By the time he returned, twenty minutes had elapsed since the shooting. Greg felt his breath shortening and his body weakening. The men led him to the truck, still a good distance away. Then they awaited the ambulance.

Five minutes stretched to ten, ten to twenty. Forty minutes had now passed since the shooting. Growing impatient, they finally decided to steer the truck up to the main gate of the sprawling ranch. There they met an armada of rescuers who had arrived at the property to find the gates locked.

Paramedics laid Greg on a stretcher, took his blood pressure, inserted an intravenous tube, and cut open his shirt, trying to stabilize his body for the half-hour drive along bumpy roads to the provincial hospital. Greg found it progressively harder to draw air into his lungs.

I'm never going to make it, he thought. Then he heard the whirring blades of a helicopter.

The California Highway Patrol chopper had departed McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento bound for a traffic accident. En route, the pilot had learned two things: that the injured motorist was beyond help, and that a man had been shot

on a remote ranch. The copter rerouted, touching down at 9:40 a.m., an hour after the shooting.

A rescuer asked Greg his name and address. He could barely speak for lack of breath. She asked him to repeat it three, four times, laboring to keep him conscious. Finally, affable Greg lost his patience: "Damn it! Greg LeMond, 745 Anillo Way, Rancho Murieta, California, 9-5-6-8-3, and don't ask me again."

Greg was loaded onto the helicopter, which regained the air and flew twenty-five miles southwest to the University of California at Davis, whose hospital specialized in traumatic injury. The flight took eleven minutes. As he arrived at the hospital, Greg felt relieved. Maybe it's not so bad, he thought. Then a doctor began to yell instructions, and hospital staff rushed Greg into the emergency room. His fear returned.

The human body holds eight to twelve pints of blood. By the time Greg arrived at the hospital, he had lost between two and three pints. Much of the blood that remained had pooled into the pleural space that surrounded his lungs, causing them to collapse. Blood had also seeped into Greg's pericardium, the membrane that enclosed his heart. Shotgun pellets had perforated both organs.

Few other human beings would have survived an hour with those injuries. In the previous summer, Greg's massive cardiovascular engine had powered him to victory in the Tour. Today it would save his life.

Rescuers loaded Greg onto a gurney, ripped open his shirt, delivered a local anesthetic, and plunged a tube into his chest to drain the space around his lungs. He arched his back in agony. Hospital



OFFSIDE SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY

staff then rolled him into the prep room and sponged him down for surgery. Greg slipped into sleep and surgery commenced.

At the LeMond home, a very pregnant Kathy was making pancakes for her son when the telephone rang.

"It's UC Davis Medical Center," the voice said. "Your husband has been shot."

As the weight of those words sank in, Kathy hurried into a bathroom to conceal her welling tears from three-year-old Geoffrey. Kathy hung up the phone and sobbed. Then she collected herself and her child and drove to the hospital. She had forgotten all about the hunting trip. She wondered whether Greg had been caught in a holdup at a 7-Eleven. "Please let him live," she thought.

Greg's life now passed into the hands of Sandra Beal, a critical-care surgeon. Dr. Beal had been called in to treat a stabbing victim from nearby Folsom State Prison who was bleeding to death. Her presence and immediate availability were part of a long chain of small miracles that availed Greg on his darkest day.

More than one hundred lead shotgun pellets had entered Greg's body. Dr. Beal knew that to remove them all would harm his vital organs. The two pellets lodged in the lining of his heart could not be touched; there was too much risk. Most of the others had already done their damage; leaving them where they lay posed no immediate risk. The seven-person surgical team sealed two small holes in Greg's diaphragm and two more in the small intestine. Two additional holes in his liver were left to heal on their own.

When a terrified Kathy arrived, doctors told her that Greg would be in surgery for two hours, and that they would do all they could. Kathy sat in shock and waited. Two hours stretched to three, and hospital staff told her nothing.

Reporters began to trickle in. The shooting victim had been identified at last, and

LeMond lies in his hospital bed after being blasted with more than 100 shotgun pellets.

word had leaked out. Some broadcasters in Europe interrupted their programming to announce that the great LeMond had been shot.

Kathy telephoned her mother, Sacia, in La Crosse. Sacia could hear panic in her daughter's voice. She also noticed that Kathy's speech was punctuated with little gasps, as if some silent pain were passing through her body every few minutes. She finally interrupted Kathy to ask, "Are you in labor?"

Kathy was eight months pregnant; the due date was a few weeks away. The emotional force of the morning's events had propelled her body into premature labor. Now she had to choose between waiting for Greg to emerge from surgery and rushing off to admit herself into the maternity ward of a different hospital. She chose to stay.

Kathy pleaded with the staff to let her see her husband. Finally, at 2:30 p.m., she prevailed. Greg was sedated, but as Kathy walked into the room he moaned, as if he sensed her soothing presence. He was stripped naked, his body suspended above the bed by a harness so nurses could change the sheets, which were soaked crimson. Greg's body looked "like a colander," Kathy recalled, his skin a patchwork, dotted with sixty holes, each one dripping blood.

She was overjoyed to see her husband alive, but horrified at his grievous wounds. "Are you sure he's going to be all right?" Yes, they replied, Greg would probably live.

Kathy gently kissed Greg, and then reluctantly departed his hospital for her own, where doctors administered drugs to calm the contractions.

In the meantime, her brother-in-law Pat Blades had been taken to yet another

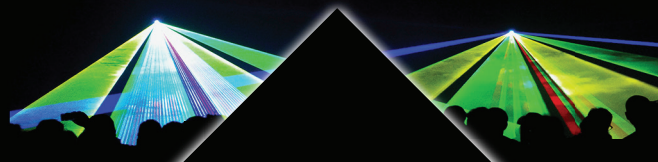
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AP PHOTO/LIONEL CIRONNEAU

hospital. Unable to bear his role in the day's events, Pat had suffered a nervous collapse. When he spoke of ending his own life, police had him admitted.

Greg survived, barely. He had lost nearly half of the blood in his body. The perforations in his small intestine had leached waste, inviting infection. Greater perhaps was the danger to Greg's damaged kidney. It was Greg's only functioning kidney. The other had failed in childhood.

Greg had arrived at the hospital twenty minutes from death. Had a helicopter not magically appeared above his uncle's ranch, he almost surely would have bled out or suffocated on the half-hour drive to the local hospital. Had he survived the trip, he likely would have died in that hospital's emergency room, which lacked a surgeon with the expertise to save him.

Five shotgun pellets remained in Greg's heart, five in his liver, and two dozen more in his back, arms, and legs: more than thirty pellets in all, each one roughly half the size of a BB.

The blast from a twelve-gauge shotgun had broken two of Greg's ribs and shattered his left ring finger. Thirty more pellets had been removed from Greg's body, some of them preserved in a plastic specimen bottle, which was later presented to the patient and became a macabre memento in the LeMond home.

The shooting was news in the United States, but even bigger news abroad. Journalists flew in from France. Dr. Beal spoke to the assembled media. "Because he's young and in very good condition, he'll recover," she said. "He'll probably lose about two months of training."

Little in her remarks hinted at how close Greg had come to death. Greg's body was his livelihood. If anyone in the professional cycling community learned the full extent of his injuries, there was little chance he could return to the sport. Without telling any untruths, Greg's doctors and his loved ones did what they could to spin the narrative as a minor setback.

As her husband lay wounded in the hospital, Kathy LeMond, eight months pregnant, went into premature labor.

Brighter days would follow. Geoffrey, Greg's three-year-old son, came to visit. It was a tender reunion—until Greg leaned forward and his son saw the dozens of circular scars that covered his back.

That night, at the family home, Geoffrey asked his Aunt Mary if she would put spots on his back, too. She dotted Geoffrey's back with a felt-tip marker.

On April 26, six days after the shooting, Greg went home. "It's my best day," he told reporters—and it was, provided one's memory reached back no further than six days. Doctors had predicted a two-week hospital stay, so Greg's prompt release was a victory in itself, sufficient, perhaps, to quash the rumors that his cycling career was finished.

It was time, though, to face one cruel fact. "The Tour de France is out of the question," Bob LeMond told reporters in a press conference shortly before Greg's release.

Greg returned to a home that now resembled a sick ward. He convalesced in one room, Kathy in another. Their mothers slept on cots in the living room. Whoever wasn't watching Greg would mind Geoffrey. One evening, as an exhausted Kathy and her equally spent mother trudged along a manicured street in the LeMond's gated community with Geoffrey in their pajamas, Sacia Morris thought, "My gosh, what has happened to us?"

Greg now found his world confined to the distance between a bed and a chair, where he would sit and shake, sweat and tears running down his face, never able to find a comfortable position. He was allowed pain medications every four hours; the fourth hour was torture.

Greg's body was covered with scars. He walked with the stoop of an old man. The simple act of talking put so much exer-

tion on his wounded diaphragm it would sap his strength. His lungs pumped at a fraction of their former capacity. X-rays showed the right one, more gravely damaged, now markedly smaller than the left.

Bit by bit, Greg improved. In week three, he summoned the strength to walk out his front door. A month earlier Greg hadn't been sure he wanted to return to professional cycling. Now he feared the decision was no longer his.

On May 12, twenty-two days after the accident, Greg accompanied Kathy to the hospital for the birth of their second child, Scott. Though Greg was overjoyed, the journey proved too arduous; he wound up in a bed next to Kathy and their new baby.

Finally, the day arrived when Greg climbed back onto a bicycle. It wasn't a racing bike, just a fat-wheeled ten-speed with straightened handlebars and a baby seat fitted to the back. He rode it around the garage of his suburban home, his chest heaving from the effort. Soon, Greg and his three-year-old son were riding together, Greg on his ten-speed, Geoffrey on his tricycle, wobbling down the street.

By the end of May, five weeks after the shooting, Greg found his body beginning to heal. The profound weariness that had gripped him was loosening, giving way to his native restlessness.

Yet Greg's celebrated cardiopulmonary engine lay in ruin. He had lost thirty of his 150 pounds. His wounded body, deprived of food, had sought protein in Greg's thigh and calf muscles, which had wasted away. His body fat, a measure of fitness, had swelled from 5 percent to 19 percent. Put together, those metrics suggested Greg had lost perhaps one-third of his muscle. The share of red blood cells, vital in moving oxygen to body tissue, had dropped by more than half, from his normal 45 percent to 19 percent.

The 1987 Tour de France began on July 1. Greg watched it on television.

The LeMond family traveled to San Francisco on July 12, 1987, and dined in Chinatown. On the drive home, Greg became afflicted with the most severe pain he had ever felt, before the shooting or since.

He returned to the emergency room at Davis, where doctors diagnosed an intestinal blockage, a kink that had formed at one of the scars. They were forced to cut along the fresh surgical scar of the original abdominal incision.

The second surgery reset Greg's comeback schedule almost to day one. Greg could not lift weights until the new abdominal incision healed. He quietly scuttled his summer racing schedule.

That fall, the LeMonds sold their California home and moved into a five-bedroom, \$725,000 mansion along Lake Minnetonka in Wayzata. Their plan to build a dream home in Rancho Murieta had unraveled after the shooting. With all Greg and Kathy

had suffered, the gated community evoked too many bad memories.

The move marked a subtle shift in allegiances. Before, the LeMonds had lived within a few hours' drive of Greg's parents. Now they would live within a short drive of Kathy's in La Crosse.

Greg and Kathy felt a bit like kids living in a grown-up's home. They had purchased the house, along with all the furnishings, from a contractor. The LeMonds imported few items of their own.

After a decade of competitive cycling, Greg struggled for the motivation to pedal

*Greg's body looked
"like a colander,"
Kathy recalled, his
skin a patchwork,
dotted with sixty
holes, each one
dripping blood.*

a bicycle for hours a day in the off-season. Even before the shooting, he had veered perilously close to quitting. Now, in the snowbound Upper Midwest, Greg would hang up the bicycle at autumn's end and spend the winter cross-country skiing across frozen Lake Minnetonka.

Greg labored to spin the events of recent months into an inspirational tale of recovery and redemption. "There is always a time in your career when you need a break," he told the Associated Press. "I've been a professional for seven years and had never had one before. Maybe everything happened at the right time. . . . I still believe I'm better than ninety-nine percent of the other guys. My prime years are yet to come."

Greg would complete his unprecedented comeback two years later, winning the 1989 Tour de France by the narrowest margin in history. He would win the Tour once more, in 1990, before retiring from cycling to his home in Minnesota.

With the disqualification of Lance Armstrong and Floyd Landis for doping, LeMond is the only American to have won the Tour de France. **FP**

The Comeback: Greg Lemond, the True King of American Cycling, and a Legendary Tour de France. © 2018 by Daniel de Visé. Reprinted with the permission of the publisher, Atlantic Monthly Press, an imprint of Grove Atlantic, Inc. All rights reserved.

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BENT BREWSTILLERY

BEER AND LIQUOR, NEVER BEEN SICKER

We're approaching the golden age of the beer cocktail

BY JERARD FAGERBERG

After a long struggle to gain mainstream appeal, has the beer cocktail finally reached a tipping point?

Historically, beer-based mixed drinks have been treated as pariahs by the bartending and brewing communities alike. Despite prophecies that beer cocktails were the next frontier in mixology, bars have been hesitant to embrace the union of beer and booze, and patrons seem happy to enjoy both intoxicants on their own merits. But in 2018—with the local craft market at the height of its power—there's so much to gain by mixing up a locally sourced beer cocktail. And Minneapolis beermakers and distillers are leading the trend to its rightful conclusion.

"People are getting more open to the idea of it," says Tattersall Distilling co-founder Jon Kreidler. "Both brewers and distillers understand that this is the next level."

Tattersall has been a catalyst in bringing the worlds of Minnesota distilling and brewing closer together. Not only did they recently release a cocktail book including recipes that use local beers, they've also partnered with breweries like Surly, Bauhaus, and Indeed to distill beer into liquor.

It's an effort that extends beyond good marketing practices. According to Kreidler, the beer cocktail's rise is imminent, but

you shouldn't expect to see cocktail bars dedicating menu columns to them. It's the "backyard bartender," he claims, who will spur the ascent.

"People are intimidated by craft spirits," Kreidler adds. "If there's a way to make [mixing cocktails] easier, we're going to win. If a beer cocktail is the way to do that, that's going to be huge."

Perhaps no one has more to gain from this shift in perception than Bent Brewstillery. Founded in 2014 as the first combination brewery/distillery in Minnesota, Bent has never been allowed to serve both of its products in the same glass. Minnesota law prevents business like Bent and fellow brewstillery Wayzata Brew Works from holding a both a taproom license and a cocktail room license. It's something co-founder Bartley Blume is lobbying to change, but so far he's had to depend on bars to show consumers the way.

And that hasn't really worked.

"The reason I think it hasn't caught on yet is that some people think of it as gilding the lily," Blume says. "I can't really speak for bar owners. Maybe they see a lack of demand. It's highly possible that they don't even know that it could be a thing."

Blume posits that perhaps low-class, fast-chug standbys like the depth charge and Irish car bomb have tarnished the concept

of combining beer and liquor. Add in the fact that beer is a more costly mixer than soda or juice, and bars and restaurants don't have much to gain by deviating from their norm.

But Blume routinely dashes the line between beer and cocktail. Bent has not only concocted a half-dozen beertail recipes featuring its products, but brought the ethos full circle with StormBringer, a spiced rum aged in the same barrels used to season Dark Fatha imperial stout. At Bent, the quality of the beer informs the quality of the spirit, and vice versa.

"Beer just opens the door to a whole new dimension of flavor development," he says. "There are so many different flavors of beer out there now, and there are no mixers out there that taste like beer."

Of course, distillers are eager bedfellows. Spirits are most commonly enjoyed as part of a mixed drink, so Tattersall and Bent have a lot to gain from widening the scope of liquids that pair well with their their vodkas, gins, whiskies, and liqueurs. But beer is regarded as a finished product. Brewers craft, age, carbonate, and package it to be enjoyed as is, and to many beer nerds, even garnishing with a wedge of lime is slander. Stirring in simple syrup and a jigger of triple sec is tantamount to sacrilege.

Still, some Minnesota brewers have leapt at the chance to combine their wares with local craft spirits. A front the movement has been Insight Brewing, whose cocktail-styled seasonals Crazy Aunt and Rowdy Uncle (formulated to taste like a gin and tonic and Moscow mule, respectively) have set new parameters for what brewers can accomplish when they throw Reinheitsgebot to the cocktailian winds.

"Craft beer in the U.S. is making the statement that we don't have a culture to adhere to," says Insight co-founder Ilan Klages-Mundt. He finds no insult in drinkers anointing his creations with booze. This month, he partnered with Tattersall to build recipes around Crazy Aunt and Rowdy Uncle and dared consumers to escalate their tallboys. "At the end of the day, if you can make a cocktail with beer in it, and it tastes good, then damn it, you gotta make it."

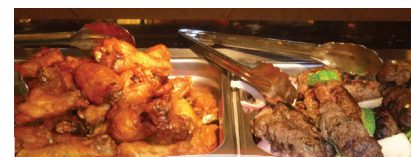
On August 5, Insight will invite local bartenders to Palmer's Bar for Beertail Mania, a "pay-per-brew" event that pits local bartenders against each other in a smackdown for the best beer cocktail. Klages-Mundt sees the event, which is (of course) being co-hosted by Tattersall, as a way to catch up drinkers who might not be up on the booming appeal of beer-booze hybrids. His advice to attendees: Come with an open mind. This time the trend's here to stay.

"The most important part of success is timing," Klages-Mundt says. "With all these breweries and all the wild and crazy things they're doing getting accepted, now's the time for beer cocktails." ☞

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A LIST

FRIDAY Dogs parade in Northeast **P. 19****SATURDAY** Midtown Greenway glows **P. 25**

TUESDAY Beer and pizza on a lawn **P. 25**



COURTESY OF AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE

WEDNESDAY 7.25

COMEDY

MIKE STANLEY

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

A few years ago, Mike Stanley almost quit comedy. “I was at a place in my life where things weren’t lining up,” he recalls, “and things just weren’t happening despite the amount of work I was putting into it.” Stanley figures every comic hits that crossroad a few years in. “You work so hard and promote yourself and you feel like no one is in your corner, so you get burned out.” The key, he discovered, is to “rewire the way you think about comedy and what success really is.” To that end, Stanley relocated to Denver from Detroit after his engagement fell through. “You really have to look at the people you bring into your life if this is what you want to do. It’s not a conventional lifestyle and it’s not easy.” His perseverance has paid off, as not only is he headlining clubs around the

country now, he has a huge New Year's Eve gig performing at Brad Garrett's Comedy Club in Las Vegas. The former *Everybody Loves Raymond* star saw one of Stanley's sets and became a fan. "The most exciting thing for me was to be able to call my mom and tell her that. *Everybody Loves Raymond* was her favorite show." 16+.

7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$16-\$23. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday — P.F. WILSON**

POETRY

POETRY, PROTEST, AND POSSIBILITY

MOON PALACE BOOKS

This Wednesday, Kyle “Guante” Tran Myhre will share poems at Moon Palace. He’ll be joined by Fatima and Isha Camara, siblings and former youth poetry slam participants. The event is co-sponsored with MPD 150, a collective

that aims to dismantle the Minneapolis Police Department. Guante will be sharing pieces exploring a police-free future, including “Quicksand,” which he performed during a recent TEDx Talk on using art as a tool for activism. He’ll also share works about racism and white supremacy from his latest album, *Post-Post-Race*, and his well-known piece “How to Explain White Supremacy to a White Supremacist.” Donations to the event go toward the collective’s upcoming projects, including an interactive exhibition planned for this fall. 7 p.m. Free; \$5-\$10 suggested donation. 3032 Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis; 612-454-0455. —SHEILA REGAN

COMEDY

BRIAN SCOLARO

ACME COMEDY CO.

"I have a commercial out now where I'm a mango," says actor and comedian Brian Scolaro. "That was weird. It's for Snapple."

I used to be a third lead on sitcoms. Now I'm a mango." He doesn't mind, though. "Being a mango pays pretty good." The road, however, can sometimes be a grind, even for an experienced comic. "When you're not famous you don't always play the good rooms, the rooms that are well run," he explains. "Acme is such a well-run room. It's an enormous pleasure to play there. It's a relief." Scolaro has also been dealing with health issues, having recently been diagnosed with MS. "They tell me I've got to watch my diet now. Well, I guess I'm going to die." He elaborates: "Immediately, they want you to start eating healthy. If I have my choice between being in a wheelchair and eating pizza and not eating pizza and walking, I'll tell ya something, I may go wheelchair." 18+.

8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$15-\$18.

708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Saturday — P.F. WILSON**

THURSDAY 7.26

VARIETY

THE VAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

THE CEDAR CULTURAL CENTER

What do you call the opposite of a sausage fest? The Vagical Mystery Tour. Coming to Minneapolis on Thursday and hosted by Minnesota native Lizz Winstead, this event pairs comedic and musical performances by women and non-binary individuals that will empower, inspire, and help raise awareness about abortion access. Winstead, who co-created *The Daily Show*, and award-winning comedian Jenn Schaal will incite laughs while a slew of local musicians like Lori Barbero, Chastity Brown, and Tina Schlieske will snarkily perform some of the most sexist songs ever written. A call to action follows the entertainment portion of the evening, with a talk back with abortion providers and activists who will discuss the current state of reproductive rights in Minnesota and tell you what to keep an eye out for as we go into election season. It's all part of a nationwide effort by the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19 ►

Ted Nugent

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CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY ►

Lady Parts Justice League, the nonprofit Winstead founded, to eliminate the stigma surrounding abortion, support abortion clinics and providers, and get out the vote. All ages. 7 p.m. \$20/\$25 at the door. 416 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-338-2674. —ERICA RIVERA

ART/MUSEUM

GUDRUN SJÖDÉN: A COLOURFUL UNIVERSE

AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE

Textile design, creative startups, and colorful, boldly patterned women's wear take center stage when singular Swedish designer Gudrun Sjödén strides into ASI this month. The career retrospective—the first in the U.S.—will include examples of Sjödén's artworks, clothing, and catalogs. Additionally, the designer will be in town to participate in a makers' event, give tours, and host a discussion about women and entrepreneurship. Once you've seen or worn Gudrun Sjödén's striking designs, your day will be instantly brightened. There will be a first-look preview party from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday, July 26, featuring the artist and her team, a fashion show, and a live choir. Included with museum admission; \$15-\$20 for the opening party. 2600 Park Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-871-4907. **Through October 28** —CAMILLE LEFEVRE

FESTIVAL

FLOW NORTHSIDE ARTS CRAWL

NORTH MINNEAPOLIS

This weekend, north Minneapolis lights up with art, music, performance, and community during FLOW Northside Arts Crawl. Organized by the West

Broadway Business and Area Coalition, the crawl is a three-day festival that takes place both indoors and outdoors in spaces along West Broadway Avenue. Things kick off on Thursday with an evening block party, followed by art receptions and a farmers market on Friday. On Saturday, visitors can tour 35 different sites, from the Mississippi River to Penn Avenue North, featuring 300 artists. Bop around Freedom Square, the Capri Theater, Juxtaposition Arts, and the KMOJ stage for fun, entertainment, and joyful art. Find more info at www.northmpls.org/flow. 6 to 10 p.m. Thursday; 3 to 10 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday. Free. West Broadway, from the Mississippi River to Penn Avenue, Minneapolis.

Through Saturday —SHEILA REGAN

FRIDAY 7.27

DOGS

THE NORTHEAST DOG PARADE

MAIN STREET

This Friday, the Northeast Dog Parade is returning with an enticing reason for people and pooches alike to get outside and enjoy the heat. The informal gathering is slated to begin in the park across from Wilde Café on historic Main Street in Minneapolis, where hounds will get to know one another in the usual manner of curious sniffs and cautious licks. Once everyone is acquainted, the pup promenade commences with an easygoing loop around the neighborhood. Following the stroll will be a series of fun activities, including awards for dogs who perform the most impressive tricks, dogs sporting the most striking

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24 ►

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Wednesday, Aug. 29 • 7 p.m.
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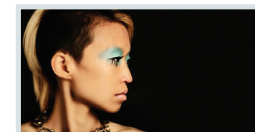


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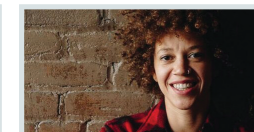
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A-LIST



Dogs party and parade in the park.

GETTY IMAGES

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ►

costumes, and dogs who have the closest resemblance to something (or someone) else. A wide range of dog-friendly vendors will also be on hand to offer treats and services. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free. 65 SE Main St., Minneapolis. —BRAD RICHASON

FESTIVAL/FILM

MSP IRANIAN FILM FESTIVAL

ST. ANTHONY MAIN THEATRE

Minnesota's first annual Iranian Film Festival launches at St. Anthony Main Theatre this week. The series will feature five contemporary films that have never been seen before in the Twin Cities. There's *Ava*, a coming-of-age film by Sadaf Foroughi, and Ida Panahandeh's *Israfil*, in which a woman takes up a romance with a childhood sweetheart after the death of her son. Mani Haghighi brings biting satire to *Pig*, while two petty thieves try to break into a police station to steal an ancient treasure in *Vespiary*, a comedy by Borzou Niknejad. Check mspfilm.org for a complete list of showtimes. \$10. 115 SE Main St., Minneapolis; 612-331-4724. **Through Sunday** —SHEILA REGAN

DANCE

PIE EQUALS SQUARE

THE CRANE THEATER

When biomedical engineer Gerry Timm commissioned choreographer Paula Mann to create a dance, he gave her carte blanche to do anything she wanted. So she started with him. To be precise, she started with his tangled

processes of cogitation and how they relate to hers as an artist. At a recent rehearsal of Mann's *Pie Equals Square*, five terrific dancers loped, lurched, and looped through the multiple equations lodged in Timm's brain, stuffed his mouth with the paper on which they were written, and even squared the circle. They found elegant visceral solutions to knotty problems, and not just abstractions. Mann's sophisticated patterning depicts a society in control, in complicity, and always on the verge of chaos. A witty score by Hans Kruger and projections by Steve Paul complement this whimsical foray into a world where the rules have changed and irreverence abounds. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$18-\$22. 2303 Kennedy St. NE, Minneapolis. **Through Sunday** —LINDA SHAPIRO

THEATER

THE KOREAN DRAMA ADDICT'S GUIDE TO LOSING YOUR VIRGINITY

PARK SQUARE THEATRE

Local playwright May Lee-Yang's comedy *The Korean Drama Addict's Guide to Losing Your Virginity* centers on a Hmong woman whose misfortune with romance is a stark contrast to the escapist fantasies depicted in Korean soap operas. With her 30th birthday swiftly approaching, the amorously adrift woman must cope with not only her own anxiety, but the gender expectations of her culture. Enter a prospective bachelor, heir to a prosperous manufacturing company,

FRIDAY

PERFORMANCE

STEAM

CIRCUS JUVENTAS

If someone in the Twin Cities wanted to run away and join the circus, they wouldn't have to go far, as Circus Juventas is in St. Paul. Since 1995, they have been training students in the art of acrobatics under the big top. Their summertime showcase invites audiences to 1890s Paris, as Jules Verne and H.G. Wells take a trip together via hot air balloon and submarine. Along the way there will be sci-fi fantasy, steam-punk fashion, sky pirates, and appearances from Dr. Moreau and Captain Nemo. Watch as these daredevils navigate ropes, giant wheels, and seesaws. Find tickets and more info at circusjuventas.org. 7 p.m. July 27-28, August 1-5, 9-12; 1 p.m. July 28-29, August 4-5, 11-12. \$23-\$32; \$45 VIP. 1270 Montreal Ave., St. Paul; 651-699-8229. **Through August 12** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER



DAN NORMAN

whose employment has brought him to the Midwest. Harboring aspirations for a career in music, the man in question just might be a kindred spirit, or at least the closest approximation. Directed by Mu Performing Arts stalwart Randy Reyes, this world premiere production at Park Square is a refreshing take on a midsummer romance. For tickets, go to www.muperformingarts.org. The show is in previews through August 2. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, plus July 31 through August 1; 2 p.m. Sundays, plus August 11. \$35-\$40. 20 W. Seventh Pl., St. Paul; 651-291-7005. **Through August 19** —BRAD RICHASON

SATURDAY 7.28

FESTIVAL

LORING PARK ART FESTIVAL

LORING PARK

Loring Park Art Festival, now in its 19th year, features over 140 local and national artists. The event offers a bit of everything, showcasing paintings, sculpture, photography, printmaking, jewelry, glass, and woodworking. There's also entertainment: Live musicians will stroll through the park and Diversity Street Dancers will perform. You'll find a wide array of food, snacks, and beverages, including the Lakes & Legends Beer Garden. The new addition is located east of the pond, and will showcase pints from the farmhouse-style brewery, which is located just a few blocks away. Browse, imbibe, and buy some one-of-a-kind art. Find more details at www.loringparkartfestival.com. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Free. 1382 Willow St., Minneapolis. **Through Sunday** —LOREN GREEN

BIKES/FESTIVAL

GREENWAY GLOW

MIDTOWN GREENWAY

Summertime bike rides are special. The annual Greenway Glow ride is especially memorable. Each year, the Midtown Greenway Coalition hosts an illuminated, artsy bike festival featuring twinkling art installations, fire artists, and treats. This year there will also be beer, eats from Taco Cat, and ice cream. The festival is free, but those who sign up for the VIP experience will help support the Greenway. Choose from family-friendly, twilight, and nighttime rides. Registration and more info can be found at midtowngreenway.org. 7 p.m. to midnight. Free; \$35, plus \$15 minimum in raised funds. 2834 10th Ave. S., Minneapolis. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

TUESDAY 7.31

FESTIVAL

MILL CITY NIGHT MARKET

THE COMMONS

Each week this summer, Mill City Night Market takes over the grassy area in front of U.S. Bank Stadium. This Tuesday, the event will also be a happy hour, as Day Block Brewing will be serving up pizza, beer, and wine to picnickers on the green. A free yoga session starts up around 5:30 p.m., and lawn games like kubb, cornhole, and ping pong will be played. Shop for veggies and artisan eats from local farmers, and enjoy live music. This is also a family-friendly happening, with plenty of healthy foods and activities geared toward kids. 4 to 8 p.m. Free. 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

Illustration by
Brian Jensen

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GIVE THE DAREDEVIL HIS DUE

Cruise still dazzles after 22 years of *Mission: Impossible*



Tom Cruise
(who else?)

PARAMOUNT PICTURES

BY BRYAN MILLER

An astonishing bit of trivia began bouncing around Twitter last week: At age 56, Tom Cruise released *Mission: Impossible — Fallout*, making him five years older than Wilford Brimley when he starred in *Cocoon*.

Wilford Brimley, the Quaker Oats and diabetes guy.

Despite being born during the Kennedy administration, Cruise is more than just passably ageless for a blockbuster frontman; he's still one of America's most compelling action stars. His compulsive-seeming daredevil stuntwork alone qualifies him as the Travis Pastrana of Hollywood A-listers. (I'd ask, "What's his secret?" but there seem to be several.)

The *Mission: Impossible* series is the ideal deployment of Cruise the action hero. His intense Tom Cruiseyness can overwhelm movies that require more variance in tone—*The Mummy*, *Valkyrie*—but he's perfectly utilized as a physical dynamo who can triumph against overwhelming odds through sheer force of will. Kinda like getting big-budget practical special effects movies made in 2018.

Cruise's Ethan Hunt returns along with partners Luther (Ving Rhames) and Benji (Simon Pegg) as well as his on-again off-again

spy ally Isla (Rebecca Ferguson). This installment's MacGuffin is, somewhat unimaginatively, a suitcase full of nuclear warheads. To retrieve them before the sinister Syndicate uses the bombs to reshape modern society, Ethan will have to go undercover as a globe-trotting terrorist and enter into a labyrinthine intersection of conflicting international interests.

It's so labyrinthine, in fact, that it occasionally renders the plot somewhat arbitrary. The double-crosses pile up so fast you never have time to care much about anyone's momentary allegiance.

Most intriguing is Hunt's relationship with rival American agent August Walker (the Man of Steel himself, Henry Cavill). A brief acknowledgement of Ethan's superspy seniority comes during a motorcycle chase with the younger man, when Cruise's hog takes a little longer to get started.

Mission: Impossible — Fallout's boilerplate story is secondary to the incredible precision of its execution. Writer and director Christopher McQuarrie has constructed another Swiss watch of an action movie, where every element—from the plot twists to the action beats—work in perfect time. Its powerful, compact efficiency befits the star himself.

The real draw anyway is watching Cruise scramble through dazzling action setpieces like a muscled mouse through

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE — FALLOUT
directed by Christopher McQuarrie
starts Thursday, area theaters

a Rube Goldberg contraption. Until the final reel, *Fallout* lacks any stunt sequences quite as flabbergasting as the Burj Khalifa skyscraper heist in *Ghost Protocol* or *Rogue Nation's* one-two punch of airplane stuntwork and the sublime opera house fight. *Fallout* does feature a dizzying car-and-motorcycle chase through Paris that turns the French cityscape into a beautiful blur, as well as a slam-bang climax that really does save the best for last.

Look close during a rooftop chase scene and you can actually see Cruise break his leg leaping from one ledge to another. He injured himself doing the jump, and McQuarrie kept the footage in the film. After landing, Cruise gets up and hobbles forward. This gritty dedication to practical effects and real stuntwork not only makes the *Mission: Impossible* series stand among the titans of Western action cinema like *The Fast and the Furious* and the Marvel Universe movies, but proves a necessary antidote to their cartoony thrills.

You wonder if Cruise will again return as Ethan Hunt, more than 22 years after he first played the character. It's Tom Cruise, so it's possible. **✎**

HAND TO GOD

Raunchy puppets get wild at the Jungle



WILLIAM CLARK

BY JAY GABLER

The promotional photo for *Hand to God*—a simple, goofy-looking puppet, wearing a halo—doesn't give Lyndale Avenue passersby much of a clue about the nature of the ribald and iconoclastic play now on stage inside the Jungle Theater. In fairness, it would be tough to reveal much more without spoiling the plot developments that make this show such a wild ride.

The Jungle does make clear, with a giant PARENTAL ADVISORY EXPLICIT CONTENT warning on its website, that this isn't the kind of puppet show you should bring kids to. It was probably inevitable that *Avenue Q* would be outdone in the annals of adult puppetry, and theatergoers have been similarly enthralled by Robert Askins' Tony-nominated 2011 script, which was America's most-produced play (aside from Shakespeare and holiday shows) in the 2016-17 season.

The play opens in a Texas church basement so faithfully rendered by scenic and puppet designer Chelsea M. Warren, it seems almost redundant given the plentitude of similar settings that abound in Minnesota. This basement holds surprises, though, and among them are the confrontational words spewed by Tyrone, a puppet on the arm of a mild-mannered teen named Jason (Riley O'Toole).

Jason's recently widowed mother, Margery (a perfectly cast Tracey Maloney), has been recruited by Pastor Greg (Kris Nelson) to lead a puppetry class that she

HAND TO GOD

Jungle Theater
2951 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis
Through August 19; 612-822-7063

cares about only marginally more than her young participants do. The only two students she has, besides Jason, are bad boy Timothy (Eric Sharp) and the justifiably appalled Jessica (C. Michael Menge).

In what one character calls a "Dr. Jekyll and Miss Piggy" act, Tyrone gives voice to the anger and frustration that's been seething in Jason since his father died. While *Hand to God* isn't exactly a profound meditation on grief and faith, those are thematic threads that Askins manages to hang on to during a raucous series of events that take these characters down some very dark paths.

Hand to God is yet another reason to applaud (take the sock off your hand first) artistic director Sarah Rasmussen's knack for corralling superb recent scripts and matching them with top local talent. In this case, director Christina Baldwin embraces Askins' snappy pace and snarling tone, with an ace cast led by the remarkable O'Toole. The fact that Maloney and Nelson are real-life spouses adds to the production's frisson.

With its fruitless physical violence, fragile male egos, and touches of magical realism in the faith-parched American west, *Hand to God* suggests a gonzo Sam Shepard. It's a cathartically angry play. From the onstage talent to Warren and the rest of the design team, the Jungle's unblinking production brings Askins' subversive comic vision vividly to life. **A**

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STREET *Style*

DADDY MPLS The queer variety show celebrated one year on July 14. **BY AMY GEE**



NOAH KEEN

23, PRINT PRODUCTION SPECIALIST

What are you wearing?

H&M T-shirt and Calvin Klein jeans that I cut myself, my dad's hat, Doc Martens, earring from ASOS.

Describe your style:

Punk, random, DIY.

Who are your style icons?

Sky Ferreira, Kelly Zutrau, Rihanna.

Favorite purchase for less than \$20:

These shorts.



DOMINICK DATES

22, WAITER

What are you wearing?

H&M hat, Doc Martens. I can't remember where everything else is from.

Who are your style icons?

Kendall Jenner, Donatella Versace, Gucci, Keyshia Ka'oir.

If you could inherit anyone's closet, whose would it be?

Beyoncé.

One thing in your closet you can't live without:

Sheer fabrics or my Calvin Kleins.



LYNN AVERY

21, MUSICIAN

What are you wearing?

Top from my friend's closet, Uniqlo pants, self-made moonstone necklace, earrings from Goodwill.

Describe your style:

I like wearing looser stuff and I like feeling like a mage or something from a fantasy novel.

Favorite purchase for less than \$20:

This shirt for free.

Favorite thing to wear in the summer:

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Guests



JUL 29
7 & 9 PM

Bebel Gilberto

7PM SOLD OUT
9PM Second Show added



JUL 30
7 PM

DakhBraka



JUL 31
7 PM

Willie West -
Soul Survivor



AUG 1
7 & 9 PM

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Mission Temple
Fireworks Revival
Feat. The Blind
Boys of Alabama



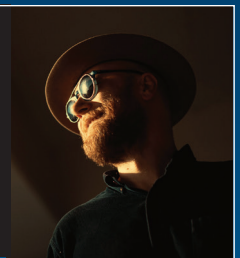
AUG 2
7 PM

Hawktail



AUG 2
10 PM

Mike Doughty



AUG 3 & 4
7 PM

Shelby J



AUG 5
7 PM

Lori McKenna



AUG 8 & 9
7 & 9:30 PM

Victor Wooten
Trio Feat. Dennis
Chambers &
Bob Franceschini



AUG 13
7 PM

All Our Exes
Live in Texas



AUG 14
7 PM

Janiva
Magness



AUG 15 & 16
7 PM

Ana Popovic



AUG 17
7 PM

An Evening
of Torch and
Swing with
Tina Schlieske



AUG 19
7 & 9 PM

Rebirth
Brass Band



WETTER FOREVER

With *Late Bloomers*, Melissa Jones says goodbye to her band, Wetter
—and to Minneapolis



Rose von Muchow and
Melissa Jones of Wetter

JERARD FAGERBERG

BY JERARD FAGERBERG

Happiness can be the enemy of creativity. Melissa Jones accepts that—discontent has long been the spur of her songwriting. But she's not going to suffer anymore.

"There's this idea that artists have to be tortured or something, and it's kind of silly," Jones says. "I'm working on not being miserable all the time. I'm so done with self-loathing. It's so boring to me."

Jones doesn't always sound so much like a TED Talk, but today she's tapped into a force greater than herself. Something in the Wetter USA singer/guitarist has changed since she decided to flee the Twin Cities, taking her catalog of fearless post-teen awkwardness with her to Denver. She's shrewd and enlightened. She speaks in prophetic absolutes. Sitting in Moon Palace Books' sun-dappled cafe, she takes a ripping bite of her pizza and chews over the satisfaction of suddenly feeling so wise.

"If it doesn't work out, it doesn't work out," she says with a smirk. "Every day's a winding road."

Irony aside, Jones did indeed take the scenic route to arrive at wisdom, following a path of foibles and random incidents. Every insight seems to surprise her as it leaves her lips.

Jones formed Wetter (now Wetter USA after protest from a Japanese band of the same name) in college when she met now-bassist Rose von Muchow while playing guitar in her dorm room in Sanford Hall at the University of Minnesota. Local polymath Jordan Bleau (Frankie Teardrop, Cheap Fantasy) later joined on to play drums, and Joe Lunaburg was added on rhythm guitar. The band released a demo in 2016, *People You May Know*, but their biggest statement comes on their swan song, *Late Bloomers*, due July 27 on Forged Artifacts.

Arising from the nexus of romanticism and responsibility, *Late Bloomers* is a no-GPS navigation of the moment post-collegiate malaise stubbornly collides with

WETTER'S FAREWELL SHOW

7th St. Entry
Saturday, July 28

adulthood. On the record, Jones emerges from her undergrad program with a degree in English and Comparative Literature and a notebook full of scribbled songs, unsure of what to do with either.

"Your whole life, your parents tell you, 'You can do anything you want to do,'" von Muchow says sympathetically, "and then you graduate and are like, 'I want to be an artist!' and they're like, 'No, not that!'"

Jones breathes life into this emotional struggle on "Do You Still Dance," a harsh internal dialogue in which she tortures herself about whether to compromise and get a full-time office job. "Human, don't you see," she sings to herself, "you're not part of a prophecy."

"When you're a kid, the world tells you, 'If you want to be special, you should take a risk,'" Jones says. "But once it actually



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SATURDAY, JULY 28

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3-7pm

SUNDAY, JULY 29

Hitchville

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 2

High & Mighty

6-9pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

**Pandora's
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SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

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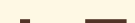
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MUSIC

comes time to do it, people tell you you're wasting your time. It gets ingrained in your mind."

In the low-fi diary that is *Late Bloomers*, Jones is not overwhelmed by this pressure. A sense of self-determination counterbalances her confusion. For Wetter, triumph is in persistence. In fact, the album's most upbeat song is "The Great Disappointment," in which Jones pushes for broader horizons after constantly falling short.

Despite realizing that romanticism is useless in the face of reality on "Do You Still Dance," she decides it's still a weapon worth brandishing on the album's glorious postmodern resurrection, "Truth Song." Originally released as a single in 2016, "Truth Song" has resonated as a fight song for the insecure and embattled. "My love, my love like the moon," Jones sings on the song, imbued with the perspective of an isolated night at the Boundary Waters, "reflecting to become."

"It was one of those songs that just comes out of you, that you write really fast," Jones says. "It's a song about being a whole person unto yourself. Being self-assured and figuring out your own shit before worrying about the little things. Putting the bigger questions first."

Wetter USA have their last moment of truth on July 28 at the 7th St. Entry. The show will act as *Late Bloomers*' release party, and before August comes, Jones will pack up with her boyfriend and bid farewell to the city that bestowed such inspirational angst upon her.

Jones hopes for an artistic reawakening in Denver. After struggling as a barista and frontwoman in Minneapolis, she's felt her songwriting dry up: *Late Bloomers* represents the sum total of her songwriting from age 19 to today.

"It's easy to get comfortable and stop challenging yourself," Jones says. "Moving is a kind of cheap way to make yourself uncomfortable. It's cheesy, but that's how everyone grows."

Wetter USA and Jones' other band, Tony Peachka, are necessary casualties of her artistic maturation. Though she's reluctant to see Wetter USA die, von Muchow agrees—she'll seize the opportunity to develop her own visual art. Bleau will focus his energy on Cheap Fantasy. Lunaburg hopes to move on to a more directorial role in his next band. Despite the immediate heartache, everyone will emerge strengthened from Jones's departure.

And Jones' hope is that it's enough to make her unhappy years immortal.

"People try to squeeze so much creative juice out of [projects] that, sometimes, there's none left," she says. "Just because something lasts for 30 years doesn't mean it's a good thing. It can be really short and really wonderful." ☐

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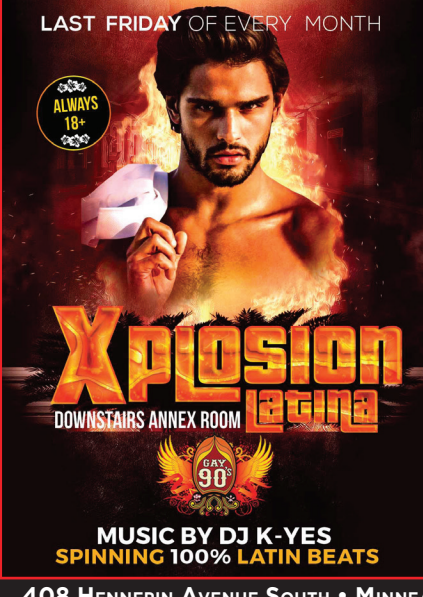
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ARMORY, WEDNESDAY 7.25

After seven consecutive albums centered on their ambitious *Amory Wars* concept—the kind of sci-fi saga that tends to inspire especially obsessive fans—New York prog-rockers Coheed and Cambria released the non-conceptual *The Color Before the Sun* in 2015, where frontman Claudio Sanchez harnessed his pure pop songwriting abilities to bright, explosive results. It may go down as a one-time departure, as the band's upcoming *Vaxis—Act I: The Unheavenly Creatures* will be set within *The Amory Wars*. With Taking Back Sunday. 5:30 p.m. \$37. 500 S. Sixth St., Minneapolis; 612-315-3965. —MICHAEL MADDEN

MY BLOODY VALENTINE

PALACE THEATRE, WEDNESDAY 7.25

In 2013, infamous perfectionist Kevin Shields and My Bloody Valentine delivered the rarest of comeback albums: a long-awaited follow-up to a masterpiece that actually sounded like growth. *MBV*, the group's first album since 1991's shoegaze landmark *Loveless*, recaptured its predecessor's supremely ambitious, otherworldly sound while proving to be much more than a retread. The band's current U.S. tour is their first in five years, preceding an EP expected later in 2018. 18+. 7 p.m. \$45/\$75. 17 W. Seventh Place, St. Paul; 651-266-8989. —MICHAEL MADDEN

SCARFACE

CABOOZE, WEDNESDAY 7.25

Scarface has been in a state of semi-retirement for over a decade, reemerging often enough to remind why he's arguably the quintessential Houston rapper. He published his acclaimed memoir, *Diary of a Madman*, in 2015 before returning with his first album in seven years. While *Deeply Rooted* was oversaturated with guest features (Nas and John Legend, among others), Scarface's reflective, spiritual lyricism, delivered in his unmistakable drawl, was the real draw. 18+. 9 p.m. \$40. 917 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis; 612-338-6425. —MICHAEL MADDEN

ERASURE

STATE THEATRE, SUNDAY 7.29

While their long run of chart-certified hits is over, London duo Erasure have remained prolific as always. Last year, Andy Bell and Vince Clarke (a founding member of Depeche Mode) delivered a collection of political, understated synth-pop with *World Be Gone*, then followed it with the elegantly orchestral companion album *World Beyond*, featuring contributions from Brussels' classical Echo Collective. However, despite this welcome wealth of recent material, Erasure's setlists are dominated by their '80s and '90s hits. 7:30 p.m. \$35-\$89. 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-339-7007. —MICHAEL MADDEN



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CHASE & OVATION
THE MUSIC OF PRINCE

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

>> By Rob Breznysy

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): Be extra polite and deferential. Cultivate an exaggerated respect for the status quo. Spend an inordinate amount of time watching dumb TV shows while eating junk food. Make sure you're exposed to as little natural light and fresh air as possible. **JUST KIDDING!** I lied! Ignore everything I just said! Here's my real advice: Dare yourself to feel strong positive emotions. Tell secrets to animals and trees. Swim and dance and meditate naked. Remember in detail the three best experiences you've ever had. Experiment with the way you kiss. Create a blessing that surprises you and everyone else. Sing new love songs. Change something about yourself you don't like. Ask yourself unexpected questions, then answer them with unruly truths that have medicinal effects.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your past is not quite what it seems. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to find out wh--and make the necessary adjustments. A good way to begin would be to burrow back into your old stories and unearth the half-truths buried there. It's possible that your younger self wasn't sufficiently wise to understand what was really happening all those months and years ago, and as a result distorted the meaning of the events. I suspect, too, that some of your memories aren't actually your own, but rather other people's versions of your history. You may not have time to write a new memoir right now, but it might be healing to spend a couple of hours drawing up a revised outline of your important turning points.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): One of the most famously obtuse book-length poems in the English language is Robert Browning's *Sordello*, published in 1840. After studying it at length, Alfred Tennyson, who was Great Britain's Poet Laureate from 1850 to 1892, confessed, "There were only two lines in it that I understood." Personally, I did better than Tennyson, managing to decipher 18 lines. But I bet that if you read this dense, multi-layered text in the coming weeks, you would do better than me and Tennyson. That's because you'll be at the height of your cognitive acumen. Please note: I suggest you use your extra intelligence for more practical purposes than decoding obtuse texts.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22): Ready for your financial therapy session? For your first assignment, make a list of the valuable qualities you have to offer the world, and write a short essay about why the world should abundantly reward you for them. Assignment #2: Visualize what it feels like when your valuable qualities are appreciated by people who matter to you. #3: Say this: "I am a rich resource that ethical, reliable allies want to enjoy." #4: Say this: "My scruples can't be bought for any amount of money. I may rent my soul, but I'll never sell it outright."

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): As you wobble and stumble into the New World, you shouldn't pretend you understand more than you actually do. In fact, I advise you to play up your innocence and freshness. Gleefully acknowledge you've got a lot to learn. Enjoy the liberating sensation of having nothing to prove. That's not just the most humble way to proceed; it'll be your smartest and most effective strategy. Even people who have been a bit skeptical of you before will be softened by your vulnerability. Opportunities will arise because of your willingness to be empty and open and raw.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Since 1358, the city of Paris has used the Latin motto *Fluctuat nec mergitur*, which can be translated as "She is tossed by the waves but does not sink." I propose that we install those stirring words as your rallying cry for the next few weeks. My analysis of the astrological omens gives me confidence that even though you may encounter unruly weather, you will sail on unscathed. What might be the metaphorical equivalent of taking seasick pills?

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The Spanish word *delicadeza* can have several meanings in English, including "delicacy" and "finesse." The Portuguese word *delicadeza* has those meanings, as well as others, including "tenderness," "finesse," "suevity," "respect," and "urban." In accordance with current astrological omens, I'm making it your word of power for the next three weeks. You're in a phase when you will thrive by expressing an abundance of these qualities. It might be fun to temporarily give yourself the nickname *Delicadeza*.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Uninformed scientists scorn my oracles. Reductionist journalists say I'm just another delusional fortune-teller. Materialist cynics accuse me of pandering to people's superstition. But I reject those naive perspectives. I define myself as a psychologically astute poet who works playfully to liberate my readers' imaginations with inventive language, frisky stories, and unpredictable ideas. Take a cue from me, Scorpio, especially in the next four weeks. Don't allow others to circumscribe what you do or who you are. Claim the power to characterize yourself. Refuse to be squeezed into any categories, niches, or images--except those that squeeze you the way you like to be squeezed.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "I have no notion of loving people by halves: it is not my nature. My attachments are always excessively strong." So said Sagittarian novelist Jane Austen. I don't have any judgment about whether her attitude was right or wrong, wise or ill-advised. How about you? Whatever your philosophical position might be, I suggest that for the next four weeks you activate your inner Jane Austen and let that part of you shine--not just in relation to whom and what you love but also with everything that rouses your passionate interest. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you're due for some big, beautiful, radiant zeal.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "There are truths I haven't even told God," confessed Brazilian writer Clarice Lispector. "And not even myself. I am a secret under the lock of seven keys." Are you harboring any riddles or codes or revelations that fit that description, Capricorn? Are there any sparks or seeds or gems that are so deeply concealed they're almost lost? If so, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to bring them up out their dark hiding places. If you're not quite ready to show them to God, you should at least unveil them to yourself. Their emergence could spawn a near-miracle or two.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): What are your goals for your top two alliances or friendships? By that I mean, what would you like to accomplish together? How do you want to influence and inspire each other? What effects do you want your relationships to have on the world? Now maybe you've never even considered the possibility of thinking this way. Maybe you simply want to enjoy your bonds and see how they evolve rather than harnessing them for greater goals. That's fine. No pressure. But if you are interested in shaping your connections with a more focused sense of purpose, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to do so.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In Janet Fitch's novel *White Oleander*, a character makes a list of "twenty-seven names for tears," including "Heartdew. Griefhoney. Sadwater. Die tränen. Eau de douleur. Los rios del corazon." (The last three can be translated as "The Tears," "Water of Pain," and "The Rivers of the Heart.") I invite you to emulate this playfully extravagant approach to the art of crying. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to celebrate and honor your sadness, as well as all the other rich emotions that provoke tears. You'll be wise to feel profound gratitude for your capacity to go so deeply. For best results, go in search of experiences and insights that will unleash the full cathartic power of weeping. Act as if empathy is a superpower.

freewillastrology@freewillastrology.com
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CROSSWORD

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MARKING ONE'S TERRITORY
BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

Across

- 1 It landed in the South Pacific Ocean on 3/23/01
- 4 Urban sun blocker
- 9 Go toe to toe
- 13 Hatred
- 14 Easy mini-golf shots
- 16 Riding mower brand
- 17 ___ Sherman
- 18 Taunting comeback
- 19 Grp. whose motto is "Semper Fidelis"
- 20 Pay money owed
- 23 Fictional captain born in Riverside, Iowa
- 24 O on some cards
- 25 Chest protector
- 27 Avoid paying, say
- 32 Epiglottis's spot
- 34 Lunacy
- 36 Back in the day
- 37 Like someone with an unpredictably dual nature
- 42 "Allow me to demonstrate"
- 43 Conductor Georg
- 44 Processes metal
- 47 Drinks of the gods
- 51 UK honour
- 52 Chapter 3
- 54 Bread spread
- 56 Ecological effect studied at the South Pole
- 62 Horror writer Stoker
- 63 Olympus rival
- 64 Head down?
- 65 Disaster agcy.

- 66 Nice lady?
- 67 Blowhard's idiosyncrasy
- 68 Spill the beans, with "up"
- 69 "Tut tut"
- 70 Drops in the morning

Down

- 1 Belarus's capital
- 2 Dinar patrons
- 3 Boomerang
- 4 Classic soul label
- 5 Titan of anticapitalism
- 6 Zenith
- 7 Sunblock ingredient
- 8 "___ Arden" (Tennyson)
- 9 Render speechless
- 10 Spring from the clink
- 11 Cold War struggle
- 12 Bird in Sinbad stories
- 15 Pub selection
- 21 Speedy Jaguar
- 22 "I don't want to hear it"
- 26 Polished off
- 28 "Sharp Objects" star Adams
- 29 Penn of "Designated Survivor"
- 30 Australian New Wave band originally named The Vegetables
- 31 New York gubernatorial candidate Cynthia
- 33 Author Arundhati
- 35 Car bar
- 37 Lavish party
- 38 They can get you contacts

- 39 Approximately five-eighths of a mi.
- 40 New Wave band with a euphoric-sounding name
- 41 Smash
- 42 CNN, MSNBC, NYT, et al.
- 45 Some Apple Pay passes, briefly
- 46 Dinner time, maybe
- 48 On the money
- 49 Poured
- 50 Puppet
- 53 "___ Worth Spreading" (TED Talks slogan)
- 55 Be a benefactor
- 57 Present time, for short
- 58 Within: Prefix
- 59 Academic committees: Abbr.
- 60 Holy man
- 61 Marked, as a ballot, and as the territories in this puzzle's theme
- 62 #squadgoals sharer

Last Week's Answer

A	C	M	E		B	O	R	A	T		G	A	D			
L	O	O	M		R	H	O	D	E		D	O	N	E		
I	A	G	O		I	D	I	O	T	P	R	O	O			
B	S	A		B	L	E	S	S		A	U	D	I	T		
A	T	M		O	L	A		E	R	M	I	N	E			
B	A	B	Y	F	O	R	M	U	L	A		E	T	S		
A	L	O	O	F		O	S	A		A	S	S	T			
		N	O	P	R	O	B	L	E	M						
M	O	L	D		R	A	E		L	E	W	I	S			
R	N	A		J	O	Y	D	I	V	I	S	I	O	N		
M	E	L	T	E		N	O	D		N	W	A				
A	P	A	R	T		C	R	A	T	E		S	E	P		
C	A	K	E	S		S	Q	U	A	R	E		Y	O	Y	O
H	I	E	S		B	B	G	U	N		A	M	O	N		
O	R	R		S	E	E	T	O		Z	E	U	S			

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Dan Savage

I've been faithfully reading your column in the Chicago Reader for years, and now I'm reaching out to you about my own problem. I've been dating this guy for almost a year. Everything is great, except one thing: He wants me to kick him in the nuts. It really bothers me, and I'm not sure what to do. He's very serious about it, and he brings it up every single day. It makes me really uncomfortable that this is some sort of fetish of his, and I need help taking steps forward.

TO KICK OR NOT TO KICK

P.S. I play soccer and I kick hard.

It's a kink called "ball busting," TKONTK, and as long as you don't kick him full force—or even half force—you're unlikely to do permanent damage. That said, childless guys who are into ball busting are often advised to freeze their sperm just in case. And while it's not a hugely popular kink, it's common enough that ball busting porn exists, and ball busting Tumblrs, ball busting blogs, etc. Take it slow at first, particularly if your guy has only fantasized about this and not experienced it.

P.S. A guy who brings up his kink every single day deserves to be kicked in the nuts—unless he's into ball busting, in which case he doesn't deserve to be kicked in the nuts.

My husband and I were married in Toronto, Canada, in 2005, before marriage equality came to the United States. Does the U.S. government recognize our Canadian marriage or do we need to remarry in the U.S.? Can you find out from one of your legal friends?

DOES OUR MARRIAGE APPLY?

"The U.S. government does recognize your marriage," said Robbie Kaplan, one of my legal friends—and the attorney who represented Edith Windsor before the US Supreme Court and won. In *United States v. Windsor*, the Supreme Court ruled that the federal government was required to recognize legal same-sex marriages, thereby gutting the Defense of Marriage Act. "We did the same thing,"

Kaplan added. "We were married in Toronto in 2006, and the U.S. recognizes our marriage. No need to get married again here."

I'm in a six-year relationship with a guy you will probably deem DTMFA-worthy but I deem round-up-able to The One. My kids already regarded him as their stepdad before we moved in together about eight months ago. That's when I learned he's an addict: He drinks, smokes weed, and jerks off to porn for about two hours every day. He has been this way for more than 20 years, and I have zero delusions he will change for me. Recently he told me he has very little sexual desire for me, that he knows my pussy in and out and it's boring, but he loves my companionship. How do I deal with this so we can move forward together as an incompatible couple?

SEX ADDICT PARTNER

A romantic partner who says something as cruel and negating as what this man has said to you, SAP, either wants out of the relationship or is grooming their partner for much worse treatment to come. If he wants out of the relationship, the verbal and emotional abuse will escalate until you finally leave him. If he doesn't want out, the verbal and emotional abuse will escalate a bit more slowly, so that, like the proverbial frog in the pot of boiling water, you don't realize exactly how bad it's getting and how much damage it's doing to you—and your kids.

I know it's not what you wanted to hear, SAP, but I'm going to say it anyway: DTMFA.

How much sex is too much sex?

NUMB OVER NUMBERS

"Enough is as good as a feast." —Mary Poppins

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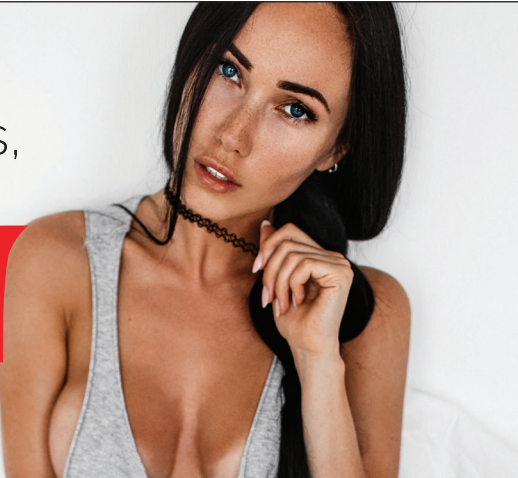
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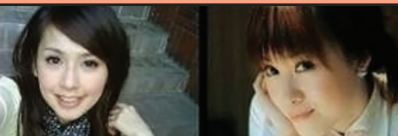


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